CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1.　　A method comprising:

2　　　　receiving information about a patient, the information about the patient including

3 diagnosis information based upon a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care

4 provider;

5　　　　performing a query function to retrieve from a database a list of data sources

6 based upon the received information about the patient; and

7　　　　generating one or more documents containing the list of data sources retrieved

8 from the database.

1 2.　　The method of claim 1 wherein the diagnosis information comprises one or more

2 diagnosis codes indicating one or more conditions of the patient based upon the

3 diagnosis.

1 3.　　The method of claim 2 wherein the one or more diagnosis codes comprise codes

2 according to the International Classification of Disease (ICD).

1 4.　　The method of claim 3 wherein the diagnosis information comprises one or more

2 descriptions describing the patient's conditions or problems based upon the diagnosis

3 performed by the health care provider.

1 5.   The method of claim 1 wherein the information about the patient further

2 comprises information selected from the group consisting of the patient's personal

3 information, prescription information, laboratory information, procedures information,

4 materials and supplies information and injection information.

1 6.   The method of claim 1 wherein a data source is referenced by an address

2 corresponding to a location where the data source resides.

1 7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the address corresponding to the location where

2 the data source resides comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

1 8.   The method of claim 1 wherein performing the query function comprises:

2   generating a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received

3 information about the patient; and

4   executing the set of queries to retrieve from the database the list of data sources

5 matching the query criteria.

1 9.   The method of claim 8 wherein generating the set of queries comprises:

2   selecting a set of existing queries that correspond to the received information

3 about the patient.

1 10.   The method of claim 8 wherein generating the set of queries comprises:

2   constructing a set of queries based on the information received.

1   11.   The method of claim 10 wherein constructing comprises:

2   determining one or more diagnosis identifiers from the information received.

1   12.   The method of claim 11 wherein a diagnosis identifier corresponds to a diagnosis

2   code.

1   13.   The method of claim 11 wherein a diagnosis identifier corresponds to a diagnosis

2   description.

1   14.   The method of claim 11 wherein the one or more diagnosis identifiers are

2   included in the diagnosis information received.

1   15.   The method of claim 11 wherein the one or more diagnosis identifiers are derived

2   from the diagnosis information received.

1   16.   The method of claim 11 further comprising:

2   determining additional diagnosis identifiers that are equivalent to the one or more

3   diagnosis identifiers included in the diagnosis information received.

1   17.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2   allowing the patient to access the one or more documents via a computer network.

1   18.   The method of claim 17 further comprising:

2   allowing the patient to provide feedback or comments with respect to the

3   information contained in the one or more documents.

1   19.   The method of claim 18 wherein the computer network is selected from the group

2   consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, and the Internet.

1   20.   The method of claim 8 wherein the query criteria include contextual information

2   applicable to the diagnosis information received.

1   21.   A database of information comprising:

2   a first code corresponding to one aspect of a patient's health;

3   a list of one or more definitions corresponding to the first code; and

4   a first list of data sources obtained based upon the one or more definitions.

1   22.   The database of claim 21 wherein the one or more definitions are used to identify

2   a set of documents from which the data sources are selected.

1   23.   The database of claim 26 further comprising:

2   a first set of queries containing query criteria based on the one or more definitions

3   of the first code.

1   24.   The database of claim 23 wherein the query criteria further comprise contextual

2   information applicable to the first code.

1   25.   The database of claim 23 wherein the queries are used to identify the set of

2   documents from which the data sources are selected.

1   26.   The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a diagnosis code indicating a

2   condition or a problem with respect to the patient's health.

1   27.   The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the

2   International Classification of Disease (ICD).

1   28.   The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the Current

2   Procedural Terminology (CPT).

1   29.   The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the HCFA

2   Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS).

1   30.   The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the READ

2   code classification.

1   31.   The database of claim 21 wherein a data source is referenced by an address

2   corresponding to a location where the data source resides.

1   32.   The database of claim 31 wherein the address corresponding to the location where

2   the data source resides comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

1 33. A method of developing a database of information, comprising:

2   generating one or more queries based upon a code;

3   identifying one or more documents based upon the one or more queries;

4   performing a selection process to select a subset of documents from the one or

5 more documents identified based upon a set of selection criteria; and

6   storing the subset of documents in the database.

1 34. The method of claim 33 wherein the code is an International Classification of

2 Disease (ICD) code.

1 35. The method of claim 33 wherein the one or more queries are based upon a first

2 definition of the code according to a specific classification scheme.

1 36. The method of claim 33 wherein the one or more queries are based upon one or

2 more additional definitions of the code.

1 37. The method of claim 33 wherein identifying the one or more documents

2 comprises:

3   identifying a list of databases on the World Wide Web (WWW); and

4   searching the databases using the one or more queries to identify the one or more

5 documents that match the query criteria specified in the one or more queries.

1 38. A system comprising:

2   a first database to store multiple lists of content links, each list corresponding to a

3   specific code; and

4   a first server to receive information about a patient from one or more sources, said

5   information about the patient including one or more codes, the first server to retrieve

6   from the first database one or more lists of content links based upon the one or more

7   codes received, the first server to generate one or more documents containing the one or

8   more list of content links retrieved from the first database.

1   39.   The system of claim 38 wherein the one or more documents generated are stored

2   in a second database.

1   40.   The system of claim 38 wherein the one or more documents are made accessible

2   to the patient via a computer network.

1   41.   The system of claim 38 wherein the computer network is the Internet.

1   42.   The system of claim 38 wherein the first server comprises:

2   logic to receive the information about the patient from the one or more sources;

3   logic to generate a set of queries based upon one or more definitions

4   corresponding to the one or more codes received; and

5   logic to execute the set of queries to retrieve from the first database the one or

6   more list of content links that correspond to the set of queries.

1   43.   The system of claim 38 wherein each list of content links stored in the first

2   database is identified using a set of queries generated from one or more definitions

3   associated with the respective code.

1   44.   The system of claim 38 wherein the set of queries is used to search one or more

2   databases on the World Wide Web to identify a potential list of content links.

1   45.   The system of claim 38 wherein the potential list of content links is used to select

2   the corresponding list of content links that is stored in the first database.

1   46.   A machine-readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by a

2   machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

3   receiving information about a patient, the information about the patient including

4   diagnosis information based upon a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care

5   provider;

6   performing a query function to retrieve from a database a list of data sources

7   based upon the received information about the patient; and

8   generating one or more documents containing the list of data sources retrieved

9   from the database.

1   47.   The machine-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the diagnosis information

2   comprises one or more diagnosis codes indicating one or more conditions of the patient

3   based upon the diagnosis.

1   48.   The machine-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the diagnosis information

2   comprises one or more descriptions describing the patient's conditions or problems based

3   upon the diagnosis performed by the health care provider.

1   49.   The machine-readable medium of claim 48 wherein performing the query

2   function comprises:

3   generating a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received

4   information about the patient; and

5   executing the set of queries to retrieve from the database the list of data sources

6   matching the query criteria.

1   50.   A machine-readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by a

2   machine, cause the machine to perform the following:

3   generating one or more queries based upon a code;

4   identifying one or more documents based upon the one or more queries;

5   performing a selection process to select a subset of documents from the one or

6   more documents identified based upon a set of selection criteria; and

7   storing the subset of documents in a database.

1   51.   The machine-readable medium of claim 50 wherein the code is an International

2   Classification of Disease (ICD) code.

1   52.   The machine-readable medium of claim 51 wherein the one or more queries are

2   based upon a first definition of the code.

1   53.   The machine-readable medium of claim 52 wherein the one or more queries are

2   based upon one or more additional definitions of the code.

1   54.   The machine-readable medium of claim 50 wherein identifying the one or more

2   documents comprises:

3   identifying a list of databases on the World Wide Web (WWW); and

4   searching the databases using the one or more queries to identify the one or more

5   documents that match the query criteria specified in the one or more queries.

1   55.   A database comprising:

2   a list of patients; and

3   for each patient in the list, a set of documents each generated based upon

4   information received from a healthcare provider following the respective patient's visit to

5   said healthcare provider, said set of documents being accessible by said respective patient

6   via a computer network.

1   56.   The database of claim 55 wherein the information received from said healthcare

2   provider comprises one or more codes, said one or more codes being used to retrieve one

3   or more lists of data sources to be included in the respective document for the respective

4   patient.